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# THREE SPEECHES, MADE BY Sir. Iohn VVray, To the House of Commons, assembled in Parliament.

1 Against *Thomas* Earle of *Strafford*, and the Bishop of Canterbury.

2 Being a motion for the taking of an oath to maintaine the Religion and vowes established.

3 Against the Oath and Canons made by the Assembly at the last Convocation.

London Printed, 1641.

423

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mons, aſembled in

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1 Againſt Tbeyns Earle of

Stafford, and the Biſhop of

Canterbury.

2 Being a motion for the taking

of an oath to maintaine the Re-

ligion and vowes eſtabliſhed.

3 Againſt the Oath and Ca-

nons made by the Aſembly at

the laſt Convocation.

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# SIR IOHN WVRAYES SPEECH.

April 6. 1641.

*Master Speaker,*

TRuth is the Daughter of Time, and experience the best School-Master, who hath long since taught many men and States, the sad and wofull effects of an halfe done work. Master Speaker, those Convulsions and renting paines, which the body of Great Brittain now shews that the ill humours and obstructions are not yet fully purged nor dissolved.

Master Speaker, God will have a through worke done, if in stead of redressing evills, wee thinke to transfeat all by removings of Persons and not things, well may wee husht our troubles for a season, but they will returne with a greater

violence, for beleeve it Master Speaker, Let us flatter our selves as we please, any sighted eye may see that although we thinke we have now passed the Equinoxiall and Strafordian Line, and seeme to have gone beyond Canterbury; yet their faction, and their undermining Agents (of all Religions) grow daily more and more powerfull, and no doubt doe labour an extirpation of all Parliaments; and men which will not thinke, say and sweare to their opinions and practices. Have we not then Master Speaker, a Wolfe by the eares, or rather a Fox by the taile? Is there any way to goe scot-free or wolfe-free but one? then let us take, and not forsake that old English Parliamentary road, which is *Via tuta*, and will bring us safely to our Journeyes end, that's my humble Motion.

# SIR IOHN VVRAYES Speech, May the third, 1641.

*Maſter Speaker,*

IF ever we intend to perfect and finiſh thoſe great workes wee have begunne, wee muſt follow that *via tuta* which I formerly told you of, and in a word is this, to become holy pilgrims in that path (not popiſh) and to endevour to be loyall Covenanters with God and the King, firſt binding our ſelves by a Parliamentarie and naturall Oath, (not a Straffordian, nor a Prelaticall one) to preſerve our Religion entire and pure, without the leaſt compound of Superſtition or Idolatrie: next to defend the Defendor of the Faith, his Royall Perſon, Crown and Dignitie: and maintaine our ſufferance in his glory & ſplendor, (which can never be eclypſed if the ballance of Iuſtice goe right:

and his Lawes bee duly executed. Thus doing Master Speaker, and making Jerusalem our chiefest ioy, wee shall bee a blessed Nation, and a happy People: but if wee shall let goe our Christian hold, and lose our Parliament proose, and old English well tempered mettell, let us take heed then, Master Speaker, that our Buckler breake not, and our golden Candlestick be not removed, which God forbid, and let me never live to see, nor England to feel the want of, thats my Prayer to conclude my former Motion.

FINIS.

# SIR *IOHN WRAYES* SPEECH

Touching the Canons, December the fifteenth, 1640.

*Master Speaker*,

A Man may eafily ſee to what tends all theſe Innovations, and alteration in Doctrine and Diſcipline, and (without a proſpective glaſſe) diſcover afarr off, the active toyleſomneſſe of thoſe, ſpirituall Ingineers, to undermine the old and true foundation of Religion, and to eſtabliſh their tottering hereſie in roome thereof; which leſt it ſhould not hold being built with untempered morter, you ſee how carefull they are by a vaſt Oath to force mens conſciences, not to alter their Government Archiepiſcopall, &c. Mr. Speaker, the thoughts of the Righteous are right, but the Counſels of the wicked are deceit, and nothing elſe is in their hearts but deſtruction, and devaſtation, but to the Counſellors of peace is ioy, ſo long as they keepe themſelves within the circle of ſpirituall Comerce, and ſtudied to keepe mens hearts upright to God and his Truth: there was no ſuch complaining in our ſtreetes of them, nor have wee overſeene ſo many thouſand hands againſt them as now there are come in, and no marvell though God withdraws ſo many hearts and hands from them; who have turned ſo many from the Way of Truth; *via tuta*, they have ſtop'd up; but *via devia*, they have

have enlarged and laid open, as appeareth by their crooked Canons. Master Speaker, I shall not goe about to overthrow their government in the plurall, but to limit and qualifie it in some perticulars: for as Sir *Francis Bacon* long since well observed there were two things in the government of Bishops, of which he could never be satisfied, no more am I, The first was, the sole exercises of their authoritie, and secondly, the deputation of that authoritie; but Mr. Speaker, I shall not now dispute of either, for my part, I wish some of them so well, and am so charitable to the rest, that I wish rather their reformation than their ruine: but let mee tell you withall, that if we shall find amongst them any proud *Becket*, or *Woolsie*, Prelates, who stick not to write, *Ego & Rex meus*, or if there shall be found any cruell *Bonners*, &c. such (I protest) I would not spare for they will spare none. But if in the counter-ballance there may bee found but one good *Cranmer*, or one *Latimer*, or *Ridley*, I would esteeme and prize them as rich Iewels, fit to bee set in the Kings owne Cabbinet, for such I am sure will pray for the peace of Ierusalem, and for the peace of King *Charles*, and his three Kingdomes, which God long preserve in concord and unity, but Master Speaker, we must also be Actors in the preservation of Religious Concordance which will never be safe nor well at quiet, until these heavy drossy Canons with all their base mettel be melted & desolved, let us then dismount them and distroy them, which is my humble motion.

FINIS.